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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/522,123

08/30/2005

Yun-Kee Kang

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EXAMINER

ALMEIDA, CORY A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2629

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

08/29/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/522,123	Applicant(s) KANG ET AL.	
	Examiner CORY A. ALMEIDA	Art Unit 2629	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 August 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 24 January 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kubota US-5956021.

3. In regards to claim 1, Kubota discloses a method for inputting a character using a software keyboard comprising a certain number of blocks (20A), each of capital characters being assigned to the respective blocks (Fig. 20A), and peripheral character block being located at peripheral regions of each of the blocks and being activated when a corresponding capital character block is touched (Fig. 20B), the method comprising the step of: inputting the capital character by touching a capital character block to which a character to input is assigned (Fig. 20B), and inputting the character of peripheral character block by touching a capital character block to which a character to input belongs (Fig. 20C) and by dragging to a corresponding peripheral character block (Col. 17 41-47).

4. In regards to claim 2, Kubota discloses the capital character block and the peripheral character block are overlapped (Fig. 20B).

5. In regards to claim 3, Kubota discloses the area of the touched capital character block is larger than that of the non-touched capital character blocks (Fig. 20B).

Art Unit: 2629

6. In regards to claim 4, Kubota discloses bars are displayed on the peripheral character blocks when a capital character block to which the peripheral character blocks belongs is touched (Col. 17, 26-37 discloses shading blocks).

7. In regards to claim 5, Kubota discloses a corresponding character is directly displayed on the peripheral character block when a capital character block to which the peripheral character blocks belongs is touched (Col. 17 41-47).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claims 6-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kubota US-5956021 in view of Kurtenbach US-5689667.

10. In regards to claim 6, Kubota does not disclose expressly the peripheral character blocks are located at up, down, left, and right area of the capital character block.

Kurtenbach discloses menu items located at a periphery of a selection (Fig. 3).

At the time of the invention it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use the menu selection of Kurtenbach instead of the drop down list of Kubota.

The motivation for doing so would have been to reduce the length of drag for the input thus making input for the user easier.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Kurtenbach with Kubota to obtain the invention as specified in claim 6.

11. In regards to claim 7, Kubota does not disclose expressly English ('A, D, G, J, M, P, S, V, and Y') are assigned to the capital character blocks respectively, 'A,B,C', 'D,E,F', 'G,H,I', 'J,K,L', 'M,N,O', 'P,Q,R', 'S,T,U', 'V,W,X', and 'Y,Z' are assigned to a peripheral character blocks located at up, down, left, and right of the capital character blocks respectively.

Kurtenbach discloses menu items located at a periphery of a selection (Fig. 3).

At the time of the invention it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use the menu selection of Kurtenbach instead of the drop down list of Kubota. It would have, also, been an obvious design choice that the blocks could be broken up further as claimed similar to a typical cell phone (shown for reference in Schiller Fig. 6).

The motivation for doing so would have been to reduce the length of drag for the input thus making input for the user easier.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Kurtenbach with Kubota to obtain the invention as specified in claim 7.

12. In regards to claim 8, Kubota does not disclose expressly a big/small letter changing block for changing a big letter into a small letter is assigned to a peripheral character block located at left of the capital character block.

Art Unit: 2629

However, at the time of the invention it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use that characters could be placed in any orientation around the selection.

The motivation for doing so would have been a design choice.

13. In regards to claim 9, Kubota does not disclose expressly '(A,a), (B,b), (C,c)', '(D,d), (E,e), (F,f)', '(O,g), (H,h), (I,i)', '(J,j), (K,k), (L,l)', '(M,m), (N,n), (O,o)', '(P,p), (Q,q), (R,r)', '(S,s), (T,t), (U,u)', '(V,v), (W,w), (X,x)', '(Y,y), (Z,z)' are assigned to peripheral character blocks located at up, down, left, and right of the capital character blocks respectively.

Kurtenbach discloses menu items located at a periphery of a selection (Fig. 3).

At the time of the invention it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use the menu selection of Kurtenbach instead of the drop down list of Kubota. It would have, also, been an obvious design choice that the blocks could be broken up to include capital and lowercase letters as claimed similar to a typical cell phone (shown for reference in Schiller Fig. 6).

The motivation for doing so would have been to reduce the length of drag for the input thus making input for the user easier.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Kurtenbach with Kubota to obtain the invention as specified in claim 9.

14. In regards to claim 10, Kubota does not disclose expressly when (a), (ka), (sa), (ta), (na), (ha), (ma), (ya), (ra), (wa) are assigned to the capital character blocks respectively, '(i), (u), (e), (o)', '(ki), (ku), (ke), (ko)', '(shi), (su), (se), (so)', '(chi), (tau),

Art Unit: 2629

(te), (to)' , '(ni), (nu), (ne), (no)' , '(hi), (fu), (he), (ho)' , '(mi), (mu), (me), (mo)' , '(yu), (yo)' , '(ri), (ru), (re), (ro)' , '(n), (o)' are assigned to peripheral character blocks of the capital character blocks respectively.

Kurtenbach discloses menu items located at a periphery of a selection (Fig. 3).

At the time of the invention it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use the menu selection of Kurtenbach instead of the drop down list of Kubota. It would have, also, been an obvious design choice that the blocks could be broken up further as claimed.

The motivation for doing so would have been to reduce the length of drag for the input thus making input for the user easier.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Kurtenbach with Kubota to obtain the invention as specified in claim 10.

15. In regards to claim 11, Kubota does not disclose expressly a block is further assigned which generates Katakana of the capital character and peripheral character.

However, at the time of the invention it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use that one could add a Katakana option around the selection.

The motivation for doing so would have been a design choice.

16. In regards to claim 12, Kubota does not disclose expressly a Chinese character changing block for changing a character into Chinese character, a sokuon changing block for changing into sokuon, a dakuon changing block for changing into dakuon, a handakuon changing block for changing into handakuon, and a tiyouon changing block

Art Unit: 2629

for changing into tiyouon are arranged respectively or arranged as a peripheral blocks of one block.

However, at the time of the invention it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use that one could add different options around the selection.

The motivation for doing so would have been a design choice.

17. In regards to claim 13, Kubota does not disclose expressly that special symbols are assigned to the capital character blocks and peripheral character blocks.

However, at the time of the invention it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to use that one could add different options around the selection.

The motivation for doing so would have been a design choice.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CORY A. ALMEIDA whose telephone number is (571) 270-3143. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 8AM to 4PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Alexander Eisen can be reached on 571-272-7687. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2629

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

CA

8/27/2008

/Alexander Eisen/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2629